

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENNA 08459 151056Z

15

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 PM-03 INR-10 NSC-10 CIAE-00

RSC-01 DRC-01 NSCE-00 /060 W
----- 104362

P R 150942Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 141

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

S E C R E T VIENNA 8459

LIMDIS

FROM US DEP REP MBFR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING AFTERNONN OF
OCTOBER 11

BEGIN SUMARY: OCTOBER 11 AFTERNOON SESSION OF AD HOC GROUP
APPROVED NORWEGIAN AND BRITISH DRAFT OPENING STATEMENTS
AFTER MINOR CHANGES. GROUP READ THROUGH US DRAFT ON PRESS
POLICY. DISCUSSION FOCUSSED ON NEED TO CONDUCT FORTH-
COMING PRESS POLICY ON ALLIED POSITIONS AND ON HOW ALLIES
MIGHT RETAIN NECESSARY LATITUTDE VIS-A-VIS EAST TO SELECTIVELY
INFORM WESTERN MEDIA DURING TALKS WHILE MAINTAINING PROCE-
DURES AGREEMENT WITH EAST THAT PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN OPEN-
ING STATEMENTS WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL. GROUP AGREED THAT ALLIES
SHOULD TAKE POSITIVE ATTITUDE TO KEEPING WESTERN MEDIA
INFORMED ALONG LINES TO BE AGREED BY GROUP AND THAT EAST SHOULD
BE APPROACHED CONCERNING POSSIBLE UNDERSTANDING REGARDING
CONFIDENTIALITY WITH TALKING POINTS TO BE REFINED FURTHER IN
VIENNA. END SUMMARY.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENNA 08459 151056Z

1. NORWEGIAN AND BRITISH DRAFT STATEMENTS. GROUP PROVISIONAL

APPROVAL AFTER A NUMBER OF LIMITED CHANGES TO NORWEGIAN AND BRITISH DRAFT STATEMENTS. TEXTS SEPTELS. DISCUSSION OF NORWEGIAN STATEMENT REVEALED SOME SENSITIVITY ON PART OF BELGIAN DEP REP (WILLOT) THAT HE MIGHT BE ASKED TO INCLUDE REFERENCE TO "MBFR" IN HIS STATEMENT WHEN HE CIRCULATED IT; HE DID NOT INTEND TO INCLUDE TERM IN BELGIAN STATEMENT.

2. PRESS POLICY. US DEP REP CIRCULATED DRAFT FOR SECTION IV OF PRESS POLICY PAPER WITH MINOR CHANGES BASED ON PREVIOUS DAY'S DISCUSSION IN GROUP. NEW VERSION INTENDED MAKE MORE EXPLICIT LINE WEST COULD FOLLOW WITH EAST TO OBTAIN SOME FREEDOM OF ACTION TO BACKGROUND WESTERN PRESS DURING TALKS IN LIGHT OF CONFIDENTIALITY COMMITMENT CONTAINED IN AGREED PROCUDERES OF 14 MAY 1973. UK REP (ROSE) SAID US CHANGES WENT A LONG WAY TO MEET HIS PROBLEMS WITH EARLIER DRAFT, BUT HE STILL REMAINED UNEASY ABOUT SEEKING UNDERSTANDING WITH SOVIETS ON THIS ISSUE. SINCE IT WAS IMPORTANT TO GET THE LINE OF PRESS POLICY STATED RIGHT, UK REP PROPOSED THAT DISCUSSION BE CONTINUED IN VIENNA NEXT WEEK AND PAPER FINALIZED THERE. US DEP REP NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH ROSE APPARENTLY OPPOSED ANY EFFORT TO REACH UNDERSTANDING WITH EAST AS REGARDS CONFIDENTIALITY, FACT WAS THAT SUCH AN UNDERSTANDING ALREADY EXISTED AND WAS INCORPORATED IN AGREED PROCEDURES OF MAY 14, 1973. ISSUE NOW WAS TO OBTAIN INTERPRETATION OF THIS UNDERSTANDING TO PERMIT ACTIVE WESTERN PRESS POLICY WITHOUT FRICTION WITH EAST.

3. NETHERLANDS REP (QUARLES) OBSERVED THAT SOME UNDERSTANDING WITH THE EAST WAS NECESSARY; PRESS POLICY WOULD HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED WITH THE OTHER SIDE. US DEP REP NOTED THAT EAST PRESUMABLY EXPECTS RULE OF CONFIDENTIALITY TO BE CONTINUED UNDER AGREE PROCUDURES. IT WAS THEREFORE HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO BRAOCH ISSUE WITH SOVIETS IN ORDER TO LIMIT FRICTIONS WHICH WOULD ARISE WHEN AND IF WEST WISHED TO DO SOME BACKGROUNDING. ITALIA DEP REP (TALIANI) OBSERVED THAT CONFIDENTIALITY WAS STIPULATED IN MAY 14. PAPER AND WOULD BE PRESUMED TO CARRY OVER INTO NEGOTIATIONS. US DEP REP EXPLAINED WEST WOULD IN EFFECT BE SEEKING TO PUT SOME LIMITS ON APPLICATION OF RULE OF CONFIDENTIALITY RULE. UK REP OBSERVED THAT IT SEEMED UNNECESSARY TO SEEK PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIALITY

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 VIENNA 08459 151056Z

FOR INFORMAL SOUNDINGS AND EMISSARIES' SESSIONS -- THESE WOULD BE PRIVATE IN ANY CASE. AS TO PLENARIES, HE COULD NOT SEE HOW LEAKS COULD BE PREVENTED, AND HE WAS LOATH TO TIE HIS HANDS IN RESPONDING TO LEAKS OR DISTORTIONS. BELGIAN REP OBSERVED THAT IT MIGHT BE TACTICALLY UNSOUND TO RE-OPEN AGREED POINT OF PROCEDURE ON CONFIDENTIALITY. RATHER, GROUP SHOULD SEEK FAVORABLE INTERPRETATION OF THAT POINT. US DEP REP AGREED.

4. US DEP REP ASKED WHETHER GROUP APPROVED OBJECTIVE SET FORTH AT OUTSET OF US PAPER ON OCTOBER 9 (BASED ON WASHINGTON DRAFT), WHICH MEANT THAT ALLIES WOULD SOMEWHAT BE MORE FORTH-COMING TOWARD MEDIA IN PRESENT TALKS THAT IN EXPLORATIES ON THE BASIS OF A COMMON LINE TO BE WORKED OUT BY AD HOC GROUP. MEMBERS OF GROUP AGREED WITH THIS OBJECTIVE. US DEP REP ASKED WHAT GROUP THOUGHT OF HAVING NETHERLANDS REP QUARLES ACT AS SPOKESMAN FOR INITIAL BACKGROUNDERS TO BE GIVEN AFTER OPENING STATEMENTS COMPLETED AND DURING DEVELOPMENT OF THEMES. THIS PROPOSAL RECEIVED QUICK APPROVAL FROM GROUP. DISCUSSION OF WHETHER INITIAL SESSION COULD BE LIMITED TO ONLY A SELECT GROUP OF JOURNALISTS (FRG REP IN PARTICULAR WAS CONCERNED NOT TO LIMIT NUMBERS OF NEWMEN WHO MIGHT ATTEND) LED TO DISCUSSION OF POSSIBILITY OF FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE ON LINES OF QUARLES' IMPROMPTU SESSION IN HOFBURG PRESS AREA AT OUTSET OF EXPLORATORY TALKS.

5. IT WAS AGREED TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSION IN VIENNA AND TO REVIEW A NEW DRAFT OF THE PAPER, TO BE PREPARED BY US DELEGATION. MOWINCKEL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENNA08459
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS MOWINCKEL
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731031/aaaaawjm.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING AFTERNONN OF OCTOBER 11
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005